



**1141st meeting of the
Pacific Coast Numismatic Society
7:30PM Wednesday May 25, 2011
Building C, Fort Mason
San Francisco, California**

MAY'S PRESENTATION:

HERB MILES

BUFFALO SOLDIERS

1140^h meeting, April 27, 2011

Dan Hipple presented his talk:

The USS Constellation: The Ship and the Medal.

The USS Constellation was the first commissioned warship in the U.S. Navy, one of six built under the Naval Act of 1794 to combat Barbary pirates. Built as a 36-gun frigate, she was broken up in 1853 and a new USS Constellation was built in the same port and launched in 1854. Whether she was broken up or simply rebuilt became a controversy that was not resolved until 1999 when construction dates were found in the surviving USS Constellation.

The original frigate was built to an unusual design created by Joshua Humphreys, a Quaker. She had a long keel and narrow beam allowing superior speed and the ability to out run the faster ships of the line. In addition, she was built with heavy oak plank-ing that allowed her to overpower her opponents at sea.

By the end of the 1800s, many believed there was only one USS Constellation that had simply been revised and rebuilt in 1854. Later research proved that to not be the case. One needs only to have looked to numismatics and historic medals to discover that a medal was struck from the original ship's copper to commemorate its destruction. Dan shared his example of the medal at the end of his talk.

Member Exhibits included:

Federico – 1871 Costa Rican gold 1 Peso and a Honduras token that was produced from a contemporary button.

Ed – Shared a selection of lighthouse pieces.

Ken – Shared the newly released US Medal of Honor gold and silver commemorative coins. He also shared an unusual book of coins of the world from the World of Money Expo and a book featuring the currency of North Korea.

Mark – In keeping with the theme of the evening, he shared two medals featuring 3 ships and a book on Mexico Large Centavos by Greg Myer.

Bill – Shared an 1891 Native Sons of the Golden West Admission Day token made of redwood burl. He also brought a copy of the new ANS book, Silver Coins of Massachusetts.

Herb – Shared a selection of San Francisco exonumia including an unusual paper “Good For.”

Jerry – Shared a selection of early San Francisco tokens including a brothel token, a good for from a business owned by a brothel owner, and a pictorial military token.

Whalen – Shared 1956 Franklin proof half-dollars and 1893 Christopher Columbus commemorative half-dollars.

Michael finished the evening with three rare Gold Rush bills of exchange recently purchased at a Holabird-Kagin auction and two choice Civil War tokens.

The evening raffle included:

Charles and Diana gold-plated wedding commemorative – Ed

Silver Charles and Diana wedding commemorative – Federico

Judge Magazine – Ed

1902 Edward coronation medal – Dan

1964 San Francisco Republican National Convention Ticket – Whalen

Trillion Zimbabwe note – Jerry

Big Buffalo Nickel Key Ring – Bill

Save the date:

June 25, 2011 6:00 P.M. - PCNS Annual Banquet

Dinner served at 7:00 P.M.

Gold Mirror Italian Restaurant

800 Taraval Street (at 18th Ave.), San Francisco

Enjoy a fine meal with your fellow numismatists, spouses, family, and friends. Members are reminded to bring a donation or two for the prize table for the unique version of PCNS Bingo!

June 25, 2011 6:00 P.M. - PCNS Annual Banquet

Gold Mirror Italian Restaurant

800 Taraval Street (at 18th Ave.), San Francisco

\$45.50 per person (includes tax and tip)

Advance reservations required.

Please reserve _____ seats for _____.

MENU for DINNER:

Antipasto, Imported Cold Cuts, Roasted Bell Peppers, Olives
and Imported Cheeses

Salad, Seasonal Mixed Greens with Balsamic Vinaigrette

Pasta, Penne Pasta in a Bolognese Sauce

Dessert: Ice Cream and Coffee or Tea

My (our) menu choices:

Main Course (Choose One Per Person)

- _____ -Roasted Chicken infused with Garden Herbs and Garlic in a
Marsala Wine Glaze
- _____ -Veal Parmigiana baked with Cheese and Fresh Tomato Sauce
- _____ -Poached Salmon in a Lemon Champagne Sauce
- _____ -Roast Prime Rib with Fresh Creamed Horseradish
- _____ -Eggplant Parmigiana layered with Fresh Eggplant, Marinara
Sauce, Bechamel Cream and Parmigiano Reggiano

Members and guests are welcome. Please send your reservation,
dinner choice, and check to:

Sandra Whalen, Treasure PCNS

1375 1/2 Thompson Ave.

Santa Cruz, CA 95062

or make your reservation with Sandra at the May meeting.

Reservations close June 15.